

Response Under 37 CFR §1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 3748

Application No. 10/542,898

Paper Dated: August 4, 2009

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of March 4, 2009

Attorney Docket No. 0702-052257

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A dividing device, comprising:

a) an outer housing with an inlet and at least two outlets;

b) at least two pump chambers placed adjacently of each other in the outer housing, each with a pump chamber infeed connected to the inlet and each with a pump chamber discharge connected to the outlet; and

c) at least two vane-type rotors, one in each pump chamber and ~~which~~ with a rotation axis in line, each vane-type rotor comprising a hub provided with continuous vanes which are slidable through the hub along their longitudinal axis and almost perpendicularly of the axis of the hub,

wherein the outer housing is divided into ~~outer~~ outer housing segments and wherein each outer housing segment comprises one pump chamber, each said pump chamber extending into a subsequent segment so as to offset connecting seams of the outer housing segments relative to connecting seams of the pump chambers.

37. (Previously Presented) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the outer housing segments are cylindrical with end surfaces, and form together with the end surfaces on each other a cylindrical outer housing, and the pump chambers are each cylindrical with end surfaces, and connecting together form a cylinder in the outer housing, wherein the end surfaces of the pump chambers are offset relative to the end surfaces of the outer housing segments.

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38. (Previously Presented) The dividing device as claimed in claim 37, wherein the pump chambers are closed on one end surface and open on the other side, wherein the pump chambers are arranged with the closed end surface toward the open end surface of a subsequent pump chamber.

39. (Previously Presented) The dividing device as claimed in claim 38, wherein the vane-type rotor forms a part of the closure of the closed end surface.

40. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein each outer housing segment comprises at least one inlet opening and at least one outlet opening.

41. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the outer housing segments are identical.

42. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the outer housing segments are enclosed between closed end parts.

43. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the vane-type rotors form a vane-type rotor assembly.

44. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein each outer housing segment is provided with a cylinder running through the outer housing segment and having a longitudinal axis practically parallel to the rotation axis of the vane-type rotor assembly, wherein the pump chambers are held in the cylinder.

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45. (New) The dividing device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the outer housing segments are mirror-symmetrical relative to a plane of symmetry perpendicularly of the longitudinal axis of the cylinder.